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Christians are not for that reason false. In fact it is reasonable that the religious history of the Revolution, which is a chapter of anticlericalism, should be more correctly analyzed by an avowed anticlerical like M. Mathiez than by the Christians who are shocked by the very facts which they are studying. Certainly the sympathies of an anticlerical should be accorded equal respect with the horrified sensibilities of the martyrologist, if the historian is to be impartial. A detailed criticism of this thesis is impossible within the limits of this review, for it would necessarily start with the determination of the validity of the definition of religion which the author has assumed.

GEORGE M. DUTCHER.

La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt, 1747-1827. Par FERDINAND-DREYFUS.
(Paris : Plon-Nourrit et Cie. 1903. Pp. xvi, 547.)

A BIOGRAPHY of the duke de La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt was issued in 1827 and again in 1831 by his son. As an account of the duke's character, position, and ideas, the work was valuable. In details it was not always accurate. The present work, an exhaustive study of a great mass of material, is not a biography alone ; the last three of its eleven chapters discuss at length the institutions and reforms in which the duke was concerned. Liancourt was a royalist and a democrat. He despised Louis XV and disliked Marie Antoinette enough to decline to her face a request that his wife should become her lady of honor. Louis XVI he respected. Before the Revolution the duke founded the first technical school in France. Its centenary was celebrated in 1880. In 1789 he sat at Versailles for the nobles of Clermont, and supported voting *par tête* and the abolition of privileges. In the National Assembly his activity centered in the Comité de Mendicité, of which he was president. At the time the church controlled public charity. The committee's reform embodied the principle, which obtains to-day, that the state must be its own almoner and must dispense its assistance without regard to creed. In 1792 Liancourt failed in a project to bring Louis XVI from Paris to Rouen. He fled to England, but applied in December to become the king's advocate before the Convention. Barère, then president of the Convention, had sat also on the Comité de Mendicité. By pocketing Liancourt's application, he saved his former associate possibly from the fate of Malesherbes.

The years 1795 to 1798 Liancourt spent in America. In his *Voyage dans les États-Unis d'Amérique*, a work of eight volumes, his comments are flattering at times and always frank. In spite of promiscuous domestic arrangements due in part to cramped quarters, the virtue of American women he found above reproach. The vice of the lower class was drunkenness. In Harrisburg, among its three hundred houses he counted thirty-eight saloons. In 1795, while in the wilds of Canada, the duke, who was out of sympathy with the plottings at Coblenz, received a request from Louis XVIII to resign his post as grand master of the robes. He refused. The post was hereditary in his family by right of purchase.

For this refusal, Lord Dorchester, pettily enough, expelled him from Canada. The 18th Brumaire restored Liancourt to France. Of his sequestered estates, a portion, including his château, had been saved from alienation by connivance of the authorities of Oise, where the duke was popular. The duchess in 1792 had obtained a divorce on the ground of her husband's emigration. By this device, not uncommon at the time, she preserved her own property. She remained in France but established herself on the frontier in a French villa from which she could adjourn at any moment to a Swiss garden. She survived the duke three years. After his repatriation she was associated with him from time to time in beneficence. They never remarried.

Under the Empire Liancourt was active in a number of unsalaried offices which he retained under the Restoration until the reaction of the early twenties. On July 15, 1823, Corbière notified him that he was retired from the office of inspector-general of the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers, from the council-general for prisons, the council-general for manufactures, the council for agriculture, the council-general for the Paris hospitals, and the council-general for the department of Oise. In his reply on the sixteenth, Liancourt twitted the minister with forgetting in this formidable list the duke's presidency of the committee on vaccination. On the same day this committee was abolished. The government pressed its vengeance to the grave. At the duke's funeral in Paris, the pupils at Châlons wished to carry their dead benefactor. The police, pleading express orders, commanded them to place the body on the hearse. In the scuffle which followed, the coffin fell to the pavement and broke, and the duke's body was soiled in the gutter. The affair was discussed in the Chambers, and the king, against the wish of Corbière, expressed to the family his regret for the occurrence.

H. M. BOWMAN.

Napoleon the First: a Biography. By AUGUST FOURNIER. Translated by MARGARET BACON CORWIN and ARTHUR DART BISSELL. Edited by EDWARD GAYLORD BOURNE, Professor of History in Yale University. (New York: Henry Holt and Company. 1903. Pp. xviii, 836.)

THE hackneyed proverb that the most valuable things often come in small packages is once again exemplified by the history of the great Corsican written by Dr. Fournier, a member of the Austrian Chamber of Deputies and professor in the University of Prague, which was originally published in German in three volumes 1886–1889, and, after being translated into French by E. Jaeglé in 1892, now appears in English as a result of the joint labors of Professor Bourne, Mrs. Corwin, and Mr. Bissell, assisted by an earlier unpublished translation made by Mr. F. H. Schwan.

Almost every student who has become thoroughly conversant with the unique era of nineteen years (1796–1815) which has been roughly